

CLAIMS

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer-implemented method for defining a project in a computer graphics program comprising:

(a) obtaining a project file in the computer graphics program comprising general information regarding the project;

(b) creating a directory structure in the computer graphics program for the project wherein:

(i) one or more project drawing files are organized into various folders by drawing file type of the one or more project drawing files;

(ii) the one or more project drawing files are composed of either a building information model for the project or a report generated from the building information model; and

(iii) the one or more project drawing files are organized into the various folders based on the building information model or the report accordingly;

(c) obtaining a companion file for each project drawing file, wherein each companion file provides information used to create the directory structure and comprises information to link each project drawing file to the project based on the building information model or the report; and

(d) displaying, in the computer graphics program on a display device, the one or more project drawing files in the various folders.

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, wherein the general information is selected from a group consisting of:

a project name;

a project number;

a project level;

a project division;

a first default template for a new element;

a second default template for a new construct;

a third default template for a new view; and

a fourth default template for a new sheet.

3. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the project drawing file comprises an extensible markup language (XML) document.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the companion file comprises an extensible markup language (XML) file.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, wherein the various folders comprise:

an elements folder for element type drawing files within the building information model;
a constructs folder for construct type drawing files within the building information model;
a views folder for view type drawing files for the report; and
a sheets folder for sheet type drawing files for the report.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 5, wherein the element type drawing file comprises a set of geometry, wherein the set of geometry is repeated one or more times throughout a project.

7. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 5, wherein the construct type drawing file comprises:

an identification of geometry and data for a particular level/wing and category of the project; and
one or more elements.

8. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 5, wherein the view type drawing file automatically assembles appropriate constructs to represent a portion of a project that has been selected based upon user specified data.

9. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 5, wherein the sheet type drawing file comprises one or more views and represents a printed/plotted document.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, wherein the obtaining a companion file further comprises:

defining a user definable category and value for project information;
storing said user definable category and value in the companion file.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An apparatus for defining a project in a computer graphics program comprising:

- (a) a computer having a memory;
- (b) an application executing on the computer, wherein the application is configured to:
 - (i) obtain a project file comprising general information regarding the project;
 - (ii) create a directory structure for the project wherein:
 - (1) one or more project drawing files are organized into various folders by drawing file type of the one or more project drawing files;
 - (2) the one or more project drawing files are composed of either a building information model for the project or a report generated from the building information model; and
 - (3) the one or more project drawing files are organized into the various folders based on the building information model or the report accordingly;
 - (iv) obtain a companion file for each project drawing file, wherein each companion file provides information used to create the directory structure and comprises information to link each project drawing file to the project based on the building information model or the report; and
- (iv) display, on a display device, the one or more project drawing files in the various folders.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the general information is selected from a group consisting of:

- a project name;
- a project number;

a project level;
a project division;
a first default template for a new element;
a second default template for a new construct;
a third default template for a new view; and
a fourth default template for a new sheet.

13. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the project file comprises an extensible markup language (XML) document.

14. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the companion file comprises an extensible markup language (XML) file.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the various folders comprise:

an elements folder for element type drawing files within the building information model;
a constructs folder for construct type drawing files within the building information model;
a views folder for view type drawing files for the report; and
a sheets folder for sheet type drawing files for the report.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the element type drawing file comprises a set of geometry, wherein the set of geometry is repeated one or more times throughout a project.

17. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the construct type drawing file comprises:

an identification of geometry and data for a particular level/wing and category of the project;
and
one or more elements.

18. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the view type drawing file automatically assembles appropriate constructs to represent a portion of a project that has been selected based upon user specified data.

19. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the sheet type drawing file comprises one or more views and represents a printed/plotted document.

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the application is configured to obtain the companion file by:

defining a user definable category and value for project information; and
storing said user definable category and value in the companion file.

21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for defining a project in a computer graphics program, the method comprising:

- (a) obtaining a project file comprising general information regarding the project;
- (b) creating a directory structure for the project wherein:
 - (i) one or more project drawing files are organized into various folders by drawing file type of the one or more project drawing files;
 - (ii) the one or more project drawing files are composed of either a building information model for the project or a report generated from the building information model; and
 - (iii) the one or more project drawing files are organized into the various folders based on the building information model or the report accordingly;
- (c) obtaining a companion file for each project drawing file, wherein each companion file provides information used to create the directory structure and comprises information to link each project drawing file to the project based on the building information model or the report; and
- (d) displaying, in the computer graphics program on a display device, the one or more project drawing files in the various folders.

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the general information is selected from a group consisting of:

- a project name;
- a project number;
- a project level;
- a project division;
- a first default template for a new element;
- a second default template for a new construct;
- a third default template for a new view; and
- a fourth default template for a new sheet.

23. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the project file comprises an extensible markup language (XML) document.

24. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the companion file comprises an extensible markup language (XML) file.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the various folders comprise:

- an elements folder for element type drawing files within the building information model;
- a constructs folder for construct type drawing files within the building information model;
- a views folder for view type drawing files for the report; and
- a sheets folder for sheet type drawing files for the report.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the element type drawing file comprises a set of geometry, wherein the set of geometry is repeated one or more times throughout a project.

27. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the construct type drawing file comprises:

an identification of geometry and data for a particular level/wing and category of the project;
and
one or more elements.

28. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the view type drawing file automatically assembles appropriate constructs to represent a portion of a project that has been selected based upon user specified data.

29. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the sheet type drawing file comprises one or more views and represents a printed/plotted document.

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the method for obtaining a companion file further comprises:

defining a user definable category and value for project information; and
storing said user definable category and value in the companion file.